GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Dept., – Diversion of 4.64 ha of forest land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of Way (RoW) passing through forests in Rampachodavaram Division for providing LTE voice and data services in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Reliance JIO Infocom Limited, Visakhapatnam - Final (Stage-II) approval – Accorded.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SECTION.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.33 **Dated: 01.06.2023.**

Read the following:-

1. GoI, MoEF& C.C, New Delhi, Lr.No.11-9/98-FC, dt.16.10.2000 & 07.09.2015.
2. From PCCF (HoFF), Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15026/11/2018/FCA-SEC/PCCF/FCA-1, dt.04.01.2019.
3. G.O.Ms.No.10, EFS&T (Sec.II) Dept., Dt.31.01.2019.
4. GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi issued comprehensive guidelines in Lr.F.No.5-2/2017-FC, dt.28.03.2019.
5. GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, Lr.File.No.FC-11/160/2019-FC, dt.23.06.2021.
6. From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15026/11/2018/FCA-SEC/PCCF/FCA-3, dt.28.03.2023.

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ORDER:

In the letter 2nd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.64 ha of forest land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of Way(RoW) passing through forests in Rampachodavaram Division for providing LTE voice and data services in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Reliance JIO Infocom Limited, Visakhapatnam and requested to consider the proposal and issue orders under general approval category as per the guidelines issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change in the letter 1st read above.

2. In the G.O.3rd read above, orders have been issued according in- principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2(ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.64 ha of forest land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of Way(RoW) passing through forests in Rampachodavaram Division for providing LTE voice and data services in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Reliance JIO Infocom Limited, Visakhapatnam, subject to certain conditions stipulated therein.

3. In the letter 5th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh has submitted compliance report on conditions stipulated in in-principle (Stage-I) approval accorded by the Government in the G.O.3rd read above and requested to consider the compliance report and accord Stage-II (final) approval for the proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

4. After careful consideration of the compliance report and in exercise of the powers delegated to State Government in the guidelines issued by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change in the letters 4th & 5th read above, the Government hereby accord the Final(Stage-II) approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.64 ha of forest land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of Way(RoW) passing through forests in Rampachodavaram Division for providing LTE voice and data services in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Reliance JIO Infocom Limited, Visakhapatnam, subject to the following conditions:-

i. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;

(Contd.P.-2)

ii. Amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land, if any becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Forest Department from the User Agency;

iii. The forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same;

iv. No tree felling shall be carried out in the forest area;

v. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed off at designated dumping sites and in no case the muck / debris will be disposed off in the forest areas;

vi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;

vii. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;

viii. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of State Government;

ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the State Government;

x. The User Agency shall not carry out any no work in violation of FCA, 1980 in future;

xi. Minimal disturbance should be ensured by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the UA to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby flora & fauna;

xii. The total forest area to be utilized for the project shall not exceed **4.64 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;

xiii. User Agency and the State Forest Department shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;

xiv. The User Agency shall comply with the conditions imposed by the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, A.P.

xv. Any other conditions that the Central Government or State Government may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency;

xvi. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions of rules / guidelines made under FCA, 1980;

xvii. The User Agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Forest Department by the end of March every year.

(Contd.P.-3)

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)
NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPCIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.

Copy to:

The Inspector General of Forests(Central), Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada-520010.
The Realiance Infocom Limited,
6th Floor, Vinayagar Trade Centre, VIP Road,
Visakhapatnam-530003.
The P.S to Hon'ble M(E,FES&T),
The P.S to Spl.C.S to Government, EFS&T Dept.,
SC/SF, (Computer No.783597).

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER